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cerns American law publications. Books of primary and secondary authority are very fully discussed, Federal and State Reports are considered, and an explanation is given of the National Reporter System and the states embraced in each Reporter. In addition there is a list of Federal Reports and of the reports of the various states, giving the manner of

designating the different volumes.

In Part IV, 164 pages, by James E. Wheeler, the problem of how to find the law is taken up and well covered. The main heads of the subject are defined and for purposes of reference are alphabetically and categorically arranged, and some clear directions and practical hints are given as to the proper way in which to look up the law. Following Part IV is an appendix of 123 pages of alphabetically-arranged abbreviations of law publications, containing the abbreviations of English and American reports and decisions and of the leading case books.

J. K. F.

A Manual Relating to Special Verdicts and Special Findings by Juries. Based on the decisions of all the states. By George B. Clementson, of the Wisconsin Bar. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1905.

The efficiency of jury trials as a means of dispensing public justice has been called into question so much within recent years by both the Bench and Bar that even members of the legal profession occupying places high in the nation, have gone so far as to regard the jury as something which has lost its usefulness, a veritable fetich, which maintains its position only because of the services it has rendered in the past.

However extreme this may appear to the American bar at large, it seems to be generally accepted that there are grave flaws in the modern jury system which will require the best efforts of the profession in any attempt to remedy them.

The author of the above work has, in his volume of some three hundred odd pages, offered, perhaps for the first time in this country, a very thorough treatise upon the subject of Special Verdicts and Special Findings, which old as they are in Common Law practice, are growing more and more in favor as a means of effecting greater precision and more equitable results than can be attained by the ordinary or "general" verdict.

Beginning with the origin and history of Special Verdicts and Special Findings, he defines both of them carefully, emphasizing their points of distinction and giving the most important rules and practices together with the statutory provisions governing their use throughout the several states of the Union.

The author seems to have spared no effort in accumulating the vast amount of material necessary to write an original work of this kind, and has made it a complete manual of all the common and statutory law on the subject.

Considering that it is also a pioneer work in this particular field, it deserves much consideration and it will no doubt prove, as the author himself has it, "a guide in practice where many go astray."

G. F. B.

LEADING CASES IN THE BIBLE. By DAVID WERNER AMRAM, M.A., LL.B., (of the Philadelphia Bar). One volume, pp. 215. Philadelphia: Julius H. Greenstone, 1905.

This is an extremely interesting and unique little book. It takes up certain well-known incidents of Old Testament history and discusses them from the juridic point of view.

These so-called leading cases, show the growth and development of the Hebrew law and the effect of the religious nature of that people upon its system of jurisprudence. They give also an idea of ancient modes of procedure, the formalities attendant upon the sale of land, and all that other legal machinery which is interesting as an expression of a particular nation's idea of justice, and its means of securing it.

The perusal of this book suggests many comparisons between the Hebraic law and our own. These similarities are all the more interesting in view of the influence of the Bible on our customs and laws.

J. H. D.

## NOTES ON RECENT LEADING ARTICLES IN LEGAL PERIODICALS.

HARVARD LAW REVIEW .- February.

Equitable Conversion. VI. C. C. Langdell. This is the sixth instalment of these very valuable papers. To the student of this doctrine the series will form a very profound and fruitful contribution to the knowledge of the subject.

The Creation of the Relation of Carrier of Passengers. Joseph H. Beale, Jr. Some few of us are carriers, but all of us are at some time